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GENERAL NOTES.

A TRICARPELLARY MAPLE.

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Sometime in October, 1944, Capt. Howard S. Rappleye, of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey and Treasurer of the Washington Academy of Sciences, informed me that, in the Takoma Park section of the District, where he resides, is a maple tree with its fruits often in 3's instead of pairs. Following Capt. Rappleye's directions, I visited on October 18th the intersection of Laurel and Walnut Streets where I saw the tree to which Capt. Rappleye undoubtedly referred, and from which the material was collected on which the accompanying drawing (Fig. 1) is based. The tree is a Planetree or Sycamore Maple (*Acer pseudoplatanus* L.), the species with which the south side of Walnut Street is planted. At this season of the year much of the fruit had fallen and probably some of the trees are male, but there was evidence that other trees in this row sometimes had fruit in 3's. The corner tree, near Laurel St., seemed to have the majority of its fruits in threes. As far as I have been able to ascertain, tricarpellary fruits in maples are not on record. While the condition here mentioned is doubtless "freakish" it presumably has some genetic significance and seems worthy of record.

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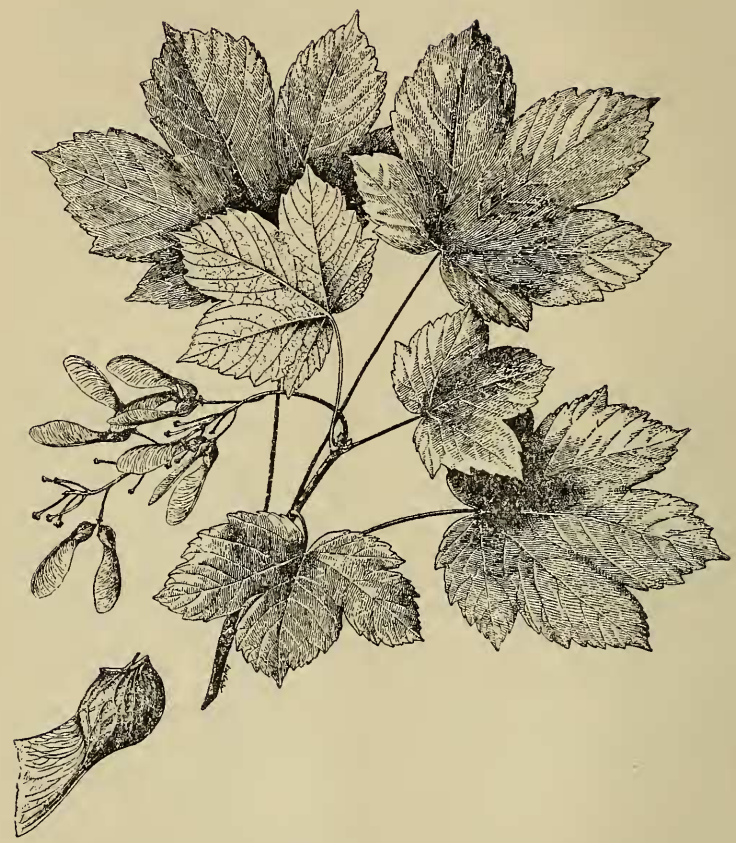

Fig. 1. Planetree or Sycamore Maple (*Acer pseudoplatanus* L.). Drawing by Miss Leta S. Hughey of the U. S. Forest Service from material collected by W. A. Dayton October 18, 1944, on Walnut St., near intersection of Laurel St., Takoma Park, D. C. Apparently more than half of the fruits on this tree were in threes. Note fuzziness of lower leaf surfaces, reticulated nutlets (some of which had a few short hairs) and the rather narrow angle of the keys.